



**Project Management Team
Quarterly Meeting
March 22, 2007
DDN**

Overall objective: To allow Project Management Team members to communicate and connect as they continue the work toward enriching the lives of students with disabilities.

Outcomes:

1. Share/discuss summer projects
2. Discuss the evaluation process
3. Inform Coordinators of what information will be needed for the Federal Report

Members participating:

Rebecca Cain,
Project Director, Department of Education
Deb Zebill
Coordinator, ESA 1
Pat Hubert
Coordinator, ESA 2
Dan Goodwin
Director, Project ENRICH, ESA 2
Vicky Venhuizen
Education Specialist, ESA 2
Sylvia Street
Coordinator, ESA 3
Connie Geier
Co-Director, Project ENRICH, ESA 4
Rita Pettigrew
Co-Director, Project ENRICH, ESA 4
Eric Person
Director/Coordinator, Project ENRICH, ESA 5
Barbara Bohlander
Team Member, ESA 5
Debbie O'Doan and Marilyn Hofer
Representing ESA 6 and 7
MaryLou McGirr
Evaluator, TIE

Minutes:

Rebecca opened the meeting with introductions.

Outcome 1 - Share/discuss summer projects

ESA 1 –

- Hosting FASD Workshop Aug 1 and 2 in Watertown
- Looking for Praxis speaker for a one-day workshop in the fall for teachers in the high school level on how to write transition assessments (indicator 13) and for parents looking for trainings
- Attendance: Second Introduction to ABA – 103; Advanced ABA - 68; PECS - 60-70; 7 mentoring teams
- Thinking about hosting a class on Direct Instruction aimed at general educators looking at the children of special needs over DDN to cover all 42 school districts

ESA 2 –

- Working with Sioux Falls District to collaborate a 4 day summer education conference; issued call for proposals; worked with ESA to recruit regional teachers to do presentations so that it wasn't entirely Sioux Falls people presenting. One of the strands is differentiated instruction; there will be a variety of 2, 3, and 6 - hour concurrent sessions; some topics include Rtl, assessments, specific teaching strategies, PBIS, behavior strategies, potentially ABA. Also plan to bring in some experts.
- Planning preschool paraprofessional in-service – 1 day with keynote and concurrent sessions throughout the day

ESA 3 –

- Offered early childhood special education class in fall and then again in the summer to increase the number of early childhood endorsements
- August 8 & 9 – 2 two day training for principals and special educators with the author of Crucial Conversations
- DIAL Corp. June 24 and 26 – Symposium for Literacy Leaders - Strands dedicated to issues around the special learner, response to intervention, differentiated instruction, dibbles, advertised statewide, reduced price to special educators
- Special Ed Data Retreat – August
- Committee RESA to have a district profile done that fits with the accreditation plan
- Paraprofessional Workshop in August

ESA 4 –

- January – Autism Spectrum -70 attended
- February curriculum modification workshop with Assoc for Curriculum Development -80 attended
- March – addressing critical mental health issues 5 or 6 different sessions, keynote and several speakers
- August 20 – Richard LaVoy – author of Fat City video talking about frustration anxiety and tension for parents, teachers and friends of children with disabilities; room for 1000 people – open statewide. 600 signed up so far – will send flyer electronically
- Have had positive feedback for Saturday in-services; it's natural that these events are held on Saturday

ESA 5 –

- Stand alone workshop not many – one of our goals was to get ourselves embedded in the schools, made good progress
- Big workshop last year to launch coaching and now Barb is paring up with school initiatives, ESA initiatives in the schools.
- Assessing what the needs are of the school to do something regionally to embed in the districts.
- Another thing that has gone well is that we feel we are integrated with regular and special education.
- There is a connection in the data collection and with Barb working with those teachers in the classroom. How do these strategies impact specifically these kids?

ESA 6 and 7 -

- Plan to continue the on-line courses; offering 5 this spring, Rtl, collaborative leadership, classroom management, building background knowledge; summer Rtl on line and Marzano classroom
- May offer differential instruction levels 1 or 2 again
- Have had good success; many participants 6 to 50 people per course
- Summer: Mentoring Program, Barb will have finished the CC certificate by June with the first cohort of educators
- ESA 6 and 7 will start another cohort this summer. Coaching and mentoring is not just for special education. It's for general education, too; it's circular and on-going. Barb Boltjes is the specialist and Jamie is the instructor.

DOE –

- Attempting to set up a summer institute for end of July, first of August; need feedback from coordinators. What will bring people in? The following suggestions were made:
- 1 day on the SPP; teachers and administrators can come in, bring data and work on separate indicators (technical system); Ann go through all the updates again
- Behavior plans
- Rtl, laws and regulations
- PBIS – info has been sent to superintendents and special education directors – Becky will send same info to ENRICH coordinators. Three schools have contacted Becky for information. If you know some schools who want assistance, talk to Becky. Trainings are 3 days and intense.
- Write IEPs; IEP process; expansion, expulsion, manifestation process
- Transition
- Coordinate efforts; save pages from data retreat for the sped desk audit; Sylvia said if you have that sped manual and talked to Penny and she told her which ones to save. Sylvia will send to Vicky. User appropriate. Bringing in sped teachers to look at their data gives them a voice.

Outcome 2 - Discuss the evaluation process

MaryLou acknowledged the many, varied and unique projects happening in each ESA and that systems of professional development exist within each ESA. However, a system within the state needs to be created. It is particularly crucial that the DOE move the ESAs toward a statewide system before the five-year grant period has expired. Becky said there are

conversations happening within the Department of Special Education in regard to creating a system of statewide professional development.

Rita asked: Is there data to support one project fit all? We are all doing about the same thing. If we go to a system wide, you take teachers out of the classroom.

Becky talked about PBIS, mentoring – generalized for the whole state and tailored for the state

Sylvia asked: Could we entertain a conversation about what the DOE sees as important and then as we develop our work plans for next year? It would give us some direction and we could write our work plans around a couple of topics to begin with. We could show we are willing to create a system. If you give us a topic and we could regionalize it.

Outcome 3 – Inform Coordinators of what information will be needed for the Federal Report

MaryLou and Becky are participating in conversations with the SPDG Director, Larry Wexler, and other directors and evaluators across the nation. Through these conversations the evaluation components are being defined. MaryLou has sent requests to coordinators and directors for the documentation needed to complete the evaluation. Coordinators were reminded to send this information immediately. Coordinators were also reminded to use the 10-question feedback form each professional development activity and/or event. MaryLou needs the completed scantron copy for evaluation purposes.

The evaluation report and quarterly reports will be used to complete the Federal Report which is due June 1, 2007.